

**WCCO-TV QUARTERLY ISSUES/PROGRAMS REPORT
PERIOD JULY 1, 2009 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2009**

ATTACHED ARE LISTINGS OF BROADCASTS OR BROADCAST SEGMENTS WHICH, IN THE STATION'S JUDGEMENT, REFLECT THE STATION'S MOST SIGNIFICANT TREATMENT OF ASCERTAINED COMMUNITY ISSUES DURING THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2009 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2009

PROGRAM INDEX: **"WCCO 4 News"** is a regularly scheduled half-hour newscast at 5:00, 6:00 and 10:00 p.m. Duration of stories listed in this report range from 1 to 12 minutes.

"60 MINUTES" is a regularly scheduled one-hour CBS news magazine show. Segments run approximately 12 minutes.

"48 HOURS INVESTIGATES" is a regularly scheduled one-hour CBS News magazine show. Segments run approximately 12 minutes.

CONSUMER: Credit Card Thefts, AG Lawsuit,

July 14, 2009, WCCO 4 News, "Credit Card Thefts" - When thieves steal credit cards, police say one of their first stops is to a gas station to fill up their gas tanks. In an effort to protect consumers from that kind of fraud, many gas retailers now require the card user to enter a zip code as part of the transaction. The theory is that a thief probably doesn't know that kind of personal information. Super America is one of the companies that has added this step to some of their gas stations, especially in areas identified with a high risk for fraud. **September 22, 2009, WCCO 4 News, "AG Lawsuit"** - With the economy sinking and credit card rates soaring, consumers are coming face to face with suffocating credit card debt. Minnesota's Attorney General is taking aim at three companies that promise to lower your credit card interest rates for a fee. The lawsuits were prompted by hundreds of complaints about three debt negotiating companies; Moneyworks, Clear Financial Solutions and Priority Direct Marketing. The companies charged financially strapped people one to two thousand dollars to lower the interest rates on credit cards, only they failed to do so, leaving people further behind in their bills. The state's lawsuit against the three companies demands a stop to the practice and for them to pay restitution.

CRIME AND PUBLIC SAFETY: Big Weed Bust, Burglary Alert, Crime Lab Money,

July 2, 2009, WCCO 4 News, "Big Weed Bust" - Eighteen people face federal charges in what police are calling the biggest drug operation they've ever seen in Minnesota. In all, police seized more than three thousand marijuana plants from homes in Coon Rapids, Elk River, Ramsey, Lakeland, Savage and Shakopee. Officials say the marijuana they seized would have at least a \$6 million value street value. **September 16, 2009, WCCO**

4 News, “Burglary Alert” – Minneapolis police are warning people who live in the 5th precinct about a recent rash of crime. There have been eight garage and home burglaries in the past week. Cars have been ransacked, cash taken as well as Ipods and GPS units. In almost all of the crimes, the thieves found easy access. Police are asking people to keep their homes and garages locked and to keep track of serial numbers on their property so they can get it back if police recover it. **September 17, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Crime Lab Money”** – Twin Cities law enforcement agencies will soon be able to solve crimes faster. The Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office says a \$1 million government grant will allow it to nearly double its crime lab staff and purchase new equipment. The new resources will increase the number of cases the department can process. With the new equipment, crime lab workers say it may only take half as long to get DNA results back in violent crime cases.

GOVERNMENT: Ryback Budget, Hennepin Tax, Transportation Study,

August 13, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Rybak Budget” – Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak announced a revised budget that takes into account \$65 million in cuts in state aid over the next two years. The mayor’s plans include funding things like public safety, transportation and job creation. He’s also proposing a 6.6% increase on the average Minneapolis home. Much of that money would pay for the city’s skyrocketing pension bills. He’s planning to cut spending in every city department, but wants to increase funding for both the Great Streets program, which helps small businesses and the City’s Workforce Centers. **September 8, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Hennepin Tax”** – In addition to furloughs, hiring freezes and pay freezes, Hennepin County commissioners have decided to take more money from homeowners. They set a maximum property tax levy for next year at about 5 percent, which adds up to more than \$600 million. To understand why the county needs more money, you have to understand Hennepin County Medical Center. The center will care for anyone, no matter if they’re insured or not and tens of thousands of people are taking advantage of this. Due to a surge in more people without insurance and because of the elimination of millions in General Assistance Medical Care funding, county leaders believe the hospital will be severely under-funded next year. **September 10, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Transportation Study”** – The Twin Cities has the worst traffic in the country. A new federal study found that three-fourths of Minnesota’s major roadways are considered congested during peak travel time. It also found a third of our main roads are in undesirable condition, which includes roads that get backed up frequently. All of that sitting in traffic adds up to hundreds of dollars a year in extra fuel costs for each metro driver.

DIVERSITY: Terror Indictment, Somali Summit, Teachers on Leave, Academy Lawsuit,

July 13, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Terror Indictment” –A Minnesota man, Salah Osman Ahmed, is behind bars accused of helping terrorists overseas. His arrest came during an investigation into the disappearance of at least twenty Somali men from the Twin Cities. Ahmed is accused of taking a flight from Minneapolis to Amsterdam and then to Somalia to fight “jihad” in Somalia. The FBI says he lied about the trip when investigators questioned him. He was arrested at his St. Paul suburban home in New Brighton. **July**

24, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “ Somali Summit” - The University of Minnesota Law School held a summit which has attracted international attention both for its agenda and its goals: to educate Somali students on critical issues so they can develop their own plan of action. Broadcast on the worldwide web, Somali students from the U.S., UK and Canada discussed topics on Islamic cultural identity, surviving peer pressure and change through higher education. **September 1, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Teachers On Leave”** – Two teachers in the Anoka-Hennepin school district accused of ridiculing a student because they thought he was gay are now on administrative leave. Alex Merritt says the teachers mocked him in front of other students. Concerned parents confronted school board members and told them sensitivity training for teachers is not enough. As a result of that meeting, the teachers were placed on leave. A school spokeswoman is not saying how long the teachers will be out. **September 19, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Academy Lawsuit”** – The Minnesota Department of Education is under fire. The local NAACP has filed complaints for what it calls a “pattern of discrimination”. The Department of Education has been investigating the TiZa Academy in Minneapolis. TiZa lawyers say the school gets unfair attention because of its Muslim immigrant population, even though it is a public school. The NAACP complaint calls for the U.S. Department of Education and the Department of Justice to find out if Minnesota is breaking the law its investigation of the Academy.

ENVIRONMENT: E Recycling, Biodiesel Plant,

September 27, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “ E Recycling” – Minnesota’s Senator Amy Klobuchar is sponsoring new legislation to come up with ways to improve recycling of our old electronics. E-Waste, as it’s called, can contain lead, mercury and other hazardous materials. If those toxic materials get into a landfill or are burned, they could harm our health and the environment. **September 28, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Biodiesel Plant”** - EverCat Fuels in Isanti is a new biodiesel plant like no other in the world. The plant creates fuel without water, chemicals or waste. The process converts fats into fuel within seconds. Two six-foot reactors will start by making three million gallons of fuel this year. The plant is living up to the promise of new green jobs. So far, they’ve hired 14 people.

HEALTH: GERD, Cancer & Drinking,

July 29, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “GERD” – Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease, commonly called acid reflux disease, affects 20 million Americans. Some cases are severe enough to require daily medication, and can often lead to esophageal cancer. A Twin Cities surgeon is using a new procedure to fix the problem permanently. It’s called a Thorax Linx, which is a small bracelet of magnetic beads placed around the lower esophageal sphincter just above the stomach. The beads open and close which prevents acid reflux. The procedure is minimally invasive and is done laparoscopically. **August 21, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Cancer & Drinking”** - A new study finds the odds of getting cancer in men increases with the amount of beer and liquor they drink. Researchers say men who

drank at least one drink a day were more likely to have several types of cancer including esophageal, stomach, liver and prostate.

WOMEN: Pregnant Flu, Working Moms,

July 29, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Pregnant Flu” - A federal advisory committee has ruled that pregnant women will be among those first vaccinated with the H1N1 vaccine. A new Center for Disease Control study says the flu has killed expectant women at a higher rate than the general population. The study found that pregnant women who contracted H1N1 accounted for 13 percent of the deaths and 32 percent of hospitalizations. **September 23, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Working Moms”** - Three Minneapolis companies are getting high marks for how they treat the moms who work for them. “Working Mother” magazine released its 100 best companies list and General Mills is in the top ten for the 14th consecutive year. Carlson Companies, the company that owns hotels and restaurants, and Bloomington-based RSM McGladrey are both on the list.

YOUTH AND FAMILY: NOLA Volunteers, Science Scores, Green Training

July 20, 2009, WCO 4 News, “NOLA Volunteers” - Nearly a dozen church youth groups in the Twin Cities are heading south to help people in New Orleans. They are all part of an effort organized by Lutheran churches across Minnesota to help a city still trying to pick up the pieces left behind by Hurricane Katrina. They will help build homes with Habitat for Humanity and will plant trees and restore parks in New Orleans. They will also give every kindergarten-through-3rd grade student a school supply kit.

July 21, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Science Scores” - The good news is that more Minnesota students are doing better on standardized science tests. The bad news is that more than half are still performing below expectations for their grade level. The Department of Education says 46 percent of the students tested in three grade levels met or exceeded scoring benchmarks. However, 54 percent didn’t meet standards. State educators say students and teachers are still adjusting to tests that have only been around for a couple of years and have deliberately high standards. **August 26, 2009, WCCO 4 News, “Green Training”** - Global warming may be among the biggest threats to humanity, but it may also be a huge opportunity. The students at Summit Academy in Minneapolis are getting hands-on training in green construction. They’re building a model home to study weatherization to save money on heating and cooling. It’s all part of HIRE Minnesota, a coalition of groups committed to development and training for green collar jobs.